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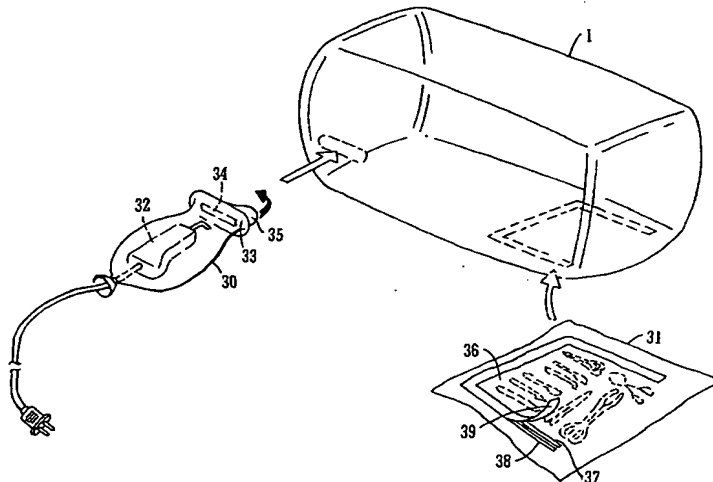
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(54) Title: STERILE ENVIRONMENTS

(57) **Abstract:** An apparatus is disclosed comprising two or more sterile environments (1, 30, 31) each of which are at least partially enclosed by a wall member. A portion of the wall member of at least one of the environments (30, 31) has means (33, 38) for joining it to a portion of the wall member of another environment (1) and the wall members at or within the joined portions are capable of being opened to connect the sterile environments (1, 30, 31). At least a portion of one or more of the surfaces that form the joined portions is provided with a bactericidal substance to sterilise the join before it is opened. The joining means (33, 38) preferably comprises an adhesive in which the bactericidal substance may be impregnated. The sterile environments may be an operating enclosure, a window unit or a carrier containing surgical instruments, fluids, medicines, a glove, blood or saline.